

WAT

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ALEKSANDROV, B.: Provocative equipment and blackmail. (About the roles of US aerial reconnaissance)

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The aerial space of one of the European countries of the Socialist group was ignored by the appearance of two military planes of the F-84 type, with the wing marks of the U.S.A. The planes appeared on the borders of the Federated German Republic and for almost 30 minutes flew over the territory of the government unauthorized. Almost simultaneously again 2 planes of the U.S.A. appeared in another place in these countries, again from the border of the Federated German Republic and after a short-timed flight at great altitude made off in a westerly direction. Irrefutable facts stand out that the aim of similar provocations by the planes is aerial reconnaissance.

This is not a singular instance of reconnaissance plans of the U.S.A., as there are repeated penetrations in the aerial space of the European and Asiatic countries of the Socialist group, as well as that of other independent governments such as Syria and Egypt. It follows that the American aerial pirates at no time received the merits (they should have had) for their provocations.

May one read into the details of the actions of the American aviators' reconnaissance as chance, as this is done by the press reports by radio and by official presentations of the U.S.A.? Certainly not!

The American imperialists are carrying out adventurous plans for atomic wars, directed against the countries of the Socialist Group and above all against the Soviet Union. In these plans, aerial reconnaissance occupies no secondary place. As the instructions (directives) of the Army Air Forces, U.S.A., which sets forth the American aviation doctrine, straight-forward proclaimed, "Aerial reconnaissance concerns one of the sources for obtaining information required for successful knowledge of military actions (intentions). The facts, procured by aerial reconnaissance, particularly aerial photo reconnaissance, and radio technical means, in combination with the facts received from other sources, permits one to establish the intentions, the stages, and to determine the capabilities of other governments."

On aerial reconnaissance the Army Air Forces, U.S.A., in war time officially lays on the following objectives: To determine the qualitative and quantitative make up (of the enemy), the dislocations, and the order of battle of the army, and the techniques of opposition, the clarification of the character of the defensive works, the discovery of the aerodromes, the starting areas of rocket armaments, railway and auto-highway targets, counter defenses against aerial attack, reconnaissance places (observation points), weather, and the determination of the results of actions of military and atomic strikes.

To these official works (directives) there should be added the "unofficial orders" about which the military powers of the U.S.A. prefer not to speak aloud, but directed to spying and diversionists in peace time in the territory of the Socialist Governments, provocations of their aerial space with the aim of aerial photography, reconnaissance, and other things.

What are the means of conducting the aerial reconnaissance of the Army Air Forces, of the U.S.A.?

In connection with the form, speed, and altitude of flight of contemporary US military planes, it is of the greatest importance to determine by the exploitation by radio technical means, the defenses against planes, the radio location stations, by bomb sightings to obtain information for aerial reconnaissance, and various meteorological conditions. Photo images as indicators of the stations already known at the present time permit one to procure the information and the status of the meteorological situation. Further achievements by radio location techniques opens these fields further for great and wide possibilities (of exploitation).

Aerial photography for inspection by American specialists has not lost its importance. On the contrary it continues to remain one of their main means of aerial reconnaissance of the layers of the atmosphere and meteorological conditions. Several conditions reduce the possibilities of visual observations but it does not depend exclusively on the methods of information of aerial reconnaissance. Military specialists state that effective visual observations are aided by means of reporting on the magnetic phone slow verbal reports by the aviator, in fulfillment of the requirements of the reconnaissance.

Further achievements of ordinary aerial photography by aviation specialists of the U.S.A. is to be seen in the exploitation of infra-red photography. By this means an analysis of heat radiations of industries or densely populated regions and conditions of cold climate and winter are related to multi-promising targets for the procurement of the necessary information.

In addition to the number of means for procuring the rapid delivery of reconnaissance facts immediately at the border of the country from the plane to command points, American aviation specialists are using television equipment for transmitting an image from the plane, flying the reconnaissance. However, the problem is not yet solved as to how the television information shall be enlarged on all of the planes and yet possess a satisfactory methodical solution.

Aerial reconnaissance in the Army Air Forces, U.S.A., is seen as tactical and as strategic aviation. The following may be noted: that specifically designated all-reconnaissance aviation in strategic and tactical

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aviation commands in the Army Air Force, U.S.A., which comprises over 10% of all the military aviation. In strategic aviation commands of 45 military aviation wings, 6 wings comprise aviation reconnaissance. Tactical aviation commands also correspond to the foregoing. In the military theatre plans call also for a reconnaissance wing in each tactical aerial army.

It is characteristic that the largest types of military planes manufactured by the aviation industry of the U.S.A., whether it be heavy, medium, or light bombers, as well as fighters, are also fabricated as variants for reconnaissance.

The armament of reconnaissance wings of strategic aviation commands has the reconnaissance plane RB-47, related to the type variant of the strategic bomber B-47. On external appearance the RB-47 is distinguished from that of the B-47 by a longer nose section, in which are distributed the camera holders for the perspective photography. On the RB-47 are arranged seven aerial photo apparatus to secure plane and perspective aerial photos of places at low, medium, and great heights. The plane is also equipped with apparatus for radiotechnical reconnaissance.

In tactical aviation commands the reconnaissance wing is equipped with the reconnaissance plane RB-66 and the RB-57, as modifications of the light bomber B-66 and the B-57. There is also a tactical reconnaissance plane the RF-84F, the "Thunderbolt" a variant of the F84-F, the "Thunder-strike."

Besides the accepted reconnaissance variants of the military planes, the aviation industry of the U.S.A. also manufactures planes destined for meteorological and special reconnaissance at the greatest of heights. One of these planes intended for reconnaissance is manufactured by the Lockheed firm--the plane U-2. In appearance it is a monoplane with a mid-spaced straight wing, one keel, and with a tail unit. The special plane is distinguished by a long wing, making it resemble a glider. On the U-2 is mounted one turbo-reaction engine set in the fuselage and various special equipment. This plane, shown by the (~~magis~~), "Flight," is intended for meteorological reconnaissance and investigation of atmospheres at the greatest of heights. The journal confirms that the (~~52,500 feet~~). U-2 may for a duration of time be able to achieve heights of over 16,000 meters (52,500 feet). In the order of battle of the strategic aviation commands of the Army Air Force, U.S.A., according to the communication of the journal "American Aviation," there is being formed the first squadron of special reconnaissance equipped planes U-2.

All of these and other reconnaissance means of the Army Air Force, U.S.A., reenforces the ready American commands for military aggression. The provocation by the invasion by American reconnaissance planes of the aerial space of other governments is related to the elements of political blackmail and threats of the politics of the "cold war" which is seen in

the reactionary circles of the U.S.A., and which are fraught with serious consequences. The Soviet people, and strength of the Armed Forces, will be vigilant to follow the intrigues of the enemies of world peace, ready for the favorable moment to give a worth resistance to the amateur military adventurers.

Translator's Note: Two photos, each the size of two postage stamps accompany the article. Title to the top photo reads: High altitude plane U-2 of the Lockheed firm for meteorological and special reconnaissance. Title to the lower photo is: Reconnaissance plane RB-57 of the Martin firm.